

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 4th July 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at four of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of special conveyance allowance to non-executive gazetted officers in the City.

* 10 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a special conveyance allowance has been granted to the non-executive Gazetted officers in the Secretariat and other Gazetted officers in the Madras City with effect from this year;

(b) the special reasons for the grant of this allowance not provided for in the Fundamental Rules, to the Secretariat and other Gazetted officers in the City; and

(c) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to grant similar allowance to the Superintendents and other ranks of non-gazetted officers in the Madras City?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) In February 1952 a conveyance allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem was granted to gazetted officers in Madras City on pay not exceeding Rs. 1,000 but maintaining a car.

“(b) I am not in a position to say more than this, that it does help Government if this class of officers maintain a quick conveyance and a modest conveyance allowance like this would be a good inducement.

“(c) I am sorry, No, Sir.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—“May I know, Sir, if the Fundamental Rules have been changed?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“No, Sir, I do not think the Fundamental Rules have been changed. For this purpose, it is not necessary to change them. Probably the hon. Member (Mr. Purushothama Mudaliar) who has more experience in the Secretariat than myself may know it; I may be wrong.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU:—“May I know, Sir, what the actual cost is?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“I will enquire and tell, Sir.”

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"When the higher paid officers are paid this allowance, would it not be fair, and reasonable, Sir, if the Superintendents of the Secretariat who also take files home are granted some modest allowance, say a cycle allowance of Rs. 4 per mensem?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"This conveyance allowance for maintaining a fast conveyance does not bear comparison with what the hon. Member has proposed; I am more likely to cut this one out than increase in other directions."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"Would it not be possible to make some arrangement in the City Bus Service for taking the Government servants to the Secretariat and other public offices and back by at least providing them with monthly season tickets at concession rates?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"We shall take the suggestion of the hon. Member into consideration; I hope the hon. Member will support us when other people make a grievance of it."

Gorwala's Report on Public Administration.

* 11 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether a copy of Gorwala's Report on Public Administration (1951) was received for consideration by this State Government;

(b) what steps have been taken to improve the administrative machinery and methods in the light of the suggestions contained in Gorwala's Report; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid delay in the despatch of business in all departments of Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (a) A copy of the report was received by this Government.

" (b) & (c) Orders in respect of certain recommendations have already been issued. Other recommendations are under examination."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister give details of the recommendations of the Gorwala Committee's Report?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is a long report and some suggestions have been published widely in the newspapers; its chief aim is to improve administrative efficiency. Some of the instructions would be quite confidential such as those concerning office work but other matters may be published as soon as the recommendations are accepted."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Committee has recommended the appointment of tribunals in the case of charges against Ministers and if so, may I ask whether he has any proposal to appoint a tribunal to go into the charges made against Congress party Ministers by the hon. Sri Prakasam? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ The Gorwala Committee Report is about improving administrative efficiency and in democracy Ministers would not come really under that kind of attack or defence and I do not think I have any such proposal in my mind. I would rather let the Minister go out quietly than hold enquiries about him.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Is the Hon. the Chief Minister aware that the Committee has recommended that Ministers should not accept hospitality from wealthy interests; may I know if that is being observed by the Ministers? It occurs on page 25 of the Report.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ Sir, it is a fundamental principle in political life that no one should get committed to doing favours to others and we are following that principle and perhaps I am following it with a certain amount of rigorousness but we cannot afford, in the democracy, to be impolite to friends.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that the question of politeness was also dealt with in the Report? May I know whether the Chief Minister has instructed his Cabinet colleagues not to accept hospitality from wealthy interests and if so, will he explain why a Cabinet Minister attended a tea party given by a cinema owner in Madras City?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ It is not a case of accepting hospitality but it is a case of getting into touch with all kinds of interests within the State.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Does the Hon. the Chief Minister mean that the only way to be in touch with all kinds of interests is to accept invitations to tea parties, dinner parties and garden parties given by wealthy interests? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ It is not the only way. I can carry on a debate on this; it is not the only way; there are many ways of getting into touch, the sweet way, the bitter way, the formal way and the informal way also.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Am I to take it that the Hon. the Chief Minister justifies a Cabinet Minister opening a cinema theatre and attending and taking part in a tea party? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ I would not do it and my not doing it is a sufficient deterrent.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Will the Hon. the Chief Minister instruct the other Ministers to follow his example? ”

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not find any necessity to instruct my colleagues who are doing very well as far as I can understand, and even now they refuse on as many occasions as possible and I do not know if I should be, if I may so say, too squeamish about these things."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, Sir, if the Gorwala Committee Report has gone into the waste-paper basket so far as this State Government is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, it has not gone into the waste-paper basket; the report is too big in quality as well as in quantity to go into it. There are many good things in it just as there are many things in it which may probably be ignored. The report, I wish to tell the hon. Member, is not a political document and it was originally intended for improving administrative efficiency. Democracy is a little far away from Mr. Gorwala's experience."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether in the Gorwala Committee's Report, the Chapter on Integrity applies only to others but not to Ministers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not think I will carry on a debate."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister if he cannot take any other action against any Minister if he is found guilty except that he should resign; does it mean that he should go scotfree and not be subject to any process such as impeachment or trial by a tribunal?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Not at all, Sir. If a Minister or any person is guilty of any offence, he must be subject to some trial suitable for such a case and such type of case."

Alleged speech of the Finance Minister at Coimbatore re: assignment of lands to political sufferers.

* 12 Q.—**SRI S. B. ADITYAN:** Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) (1) whether, on or about 1st May 1952, the Hon. the Minister for Finance expressed in his speech at Coimbatore the view that, as regards assignment of lands to political sufferers, it was wrong in principle for a party to favour its followers in this manner; and

(2) whether he announced in the same speech that the question of transferring lands already allotted to well-to-do political sufferers was engaging the attention of the Government; and

(b) whether the Government have accepted it as their policy that it was wrong for a party in power to favour its followers by assigning lands, and if so, what concrete action has been taken by the Government to implement this policy?

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) (1) Yes. The speech was made at a meeting of the Coimbatore Congress Workers to impress upon them the correctness of the present policy of the Government, and was not intended to be a public statement of policy and cannot, I submit, be subject-matter for public discussion.

(2) I am informed that the Finance Minister did not make any such announcement and that what he said was that if well-to-do politicals were willing to part with lands assigned under the previous Ministry's policy to enable Government to give them to poor landless political sufferers, Government would welcome it.

“(b) The question is not of favouring the followers of the party in power. What was done before was assignment of land not brought under cultivation to persons who suffered in the struggle for National Independence. The present orders of the Government with regard to these grants of land to political sufferers result as follows:—

No further applications from political sufferers will be entertained. In regard to pending applications, poor politicals will not be worse off than others, in respect of assignments of lands which are not in the possession of any siyayijamadar and which have no special value by reason of proximity to urban areas. Any land in the possession of a previous siyayijamadar will not be touched.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister has received any response to the request made to political sufferers to return back to the Government lands assigned to them?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Some response has been received, but I am not satisfied.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“Has the Chief Minister got any response from Cabinet Ministers who were assigned public lands? Have they returned back the lands to the Government?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“This, Sir, is an insinuation. If the Hon. Member has got any information in his possession of any Minister having such lands, I would ask him to give a list to me, of course, with a list of opposition leaders' cases also.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“I can say that there is no such opposition leader.

“May I know whether the Government have any proposal to bring in legislation so that the assignments which have been made to Congressmen could be cancelled? It was mentioned by the Hon. the Chief Minister that assignment once made could not be revoked according to law. If so, is there any proposal to change the law so that these lands could be got back?”

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not so easy; even if we try to change the law whether in the case of a person who has rendered war service or national service and the like, if the terms of the grant had been fulfilled, it would amount to confiscation or compulsory acquisition and we would have to be ready with a scheme of compensation. I think the hon. Member is being carried away by partisanship in this question."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, if the land is once disposed of, it is given away once and for all? What is the total value of lands involved. I do not want exact figures but to the nearest crore."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"These are all lands which had not been cultivated; there may be mistakes here and there. It will be difficult for me to ask the officers to evaluate them and send me a report for the entire State and to add them up and present them to the House."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know in a rough manner at least whether the value of these lands which have been gifted away to Congressmen exceeds the revenue which is expected to be got by way of the imposition of taxes on bus passengers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not only the Congressmen and the like that got lands; everyone who claimed to have participated in the struggle for Independence could claim and he was asked to make the claim. Parties on this side and opposite, Congressmen and non-Congress men at the present moment, if they had participated in the Independence movement, had a right to apply and they did apply and I know that many prominent members who are bitterly opposed to the present Government have also taken such assignments. The question now is, they have brought the lands under cultivation and it is a process which involved investment and a lot of trouble and it is not easy to calculate the value at this moment nor is it of any use because no purpose will be served by such a calculation except for purposes of debate in a political discussion."

4-15 p.m. SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I repudiate the suggestion that any Opposition Leader on this side has got any lands."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If you repudiate it, may I know whether your brother has received any property under this class."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"As far as I am concerned nothing whatever has been given to me. I have even given away my hereditary lands."

"May I know, whether any steps have been taken to ensure that the lands assigned to Congressmen would not be confiscated and returned to the Government in the event of another party coming to power?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The other party will have to consult its Advocate-General" (Laughter.)

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU:—"I would like to know from the hon. Member Mr. Adityan, whether he has given away the entire portion of his hereditary land or only a portion of it?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I have given away my entire property."

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May this House be enlightened whether the hon. Deputy Leader, when he was the Chief Whip of the Party in power, advised the then Government not to give any land to political sufferers and supported the view that some of us took, that it was not a good thing to apportion lands to political sufferers of the party concerned."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"This is a question for my personal explanation."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is a question addressed to me. I am poorly informed about the history of the Government of this State, I am sorry. But I presume I have enough information."

"The Opposition Deputy Leader was the Chief Whip. Whether he can now question me about any step that he did not take then, is the question now. Sir, politics is a curious game and men may take any position at any time according to expediency."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"On a matter of personal explanation. I have always stood against it. I opposed it from the very beginning and I never applied for any land."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—"The Hon. Chief Minister has just now said that all political sufferers who had gone to jails and participated in the National Movement have received lands. May I ask, if he is aware that no member of the Communist Party has applied and got any land as a political sufferer?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, according to my understanding of that policy, which I do not approve and which I have cancelled as far as I can, all people who had suffered whether by going to jail or otherwise in the struggle for Independence during the last thirty years were entitled to apply. Many among them, who deserved and who were willing to take over the uncultivated land and to spend money on it, got it. There might have been cases where there were improper requests and improper grants made by error and I do not know what the question is. Am I to classify those who received land assignments under the scheme that is now under discussion? If I have to classify them on the basis of opinions they now hold, it is a difficult matter."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" This has developed into a debate. May I ask for a half-hour debate under rule 21 of the Council Rules? "

MR. CHAIRMAN:—" No."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—" Is the Hon. Chief Minister aware that the lands given to political sufferers are lying idle for the last four years and if those cases are brought to the notice of the Government, may I know what the Hon. Chief Minister proposes to do in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" I have already said—if correct information is given to the Government—if the conditions of the assignment have been broken—and I presume that one of the conditions is to bring the land under cultivation—I shall be too willing to get the assignment cancelled. But the hon. Member may give me information about his own case also, I hope."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—" If the Hon. Chief Minister wants, I can give information. I have got several cases."

" The Hon. the Chief Minister said that lands in the possession of sivayijamadars have not been touched. Sir, there are several cases where the lands belonging to sivayijamadars have been taken away and assigned to political sufferers. If those cases are brought to the notice of the Hon. Chief Minister, may I know what he is going to do in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" The hon. Member who put the question is making a mistake but I shall answer as far as I can. The previous policy of assignment was to grant, under certain conditions, uncultivated land to certain classes of applicants and it is quite possible that in those cases there might have been previous occupants. As I have said, henceforth the present Government has made strict rules that if any person is in occupation with or without licence, he shall not be dispossessed. That is the present policy. If the assignment has not been completed, this Government has stopped it. If the assignment has been completed, I have already explained the legal position."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" I believe that about 11,000 assignments have been made. What is to happen to the former owners who have been dispossessed? Is any compensation proposed to be given to those who have been displaced in favour of political sufferers? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" There is no question of compensation to people who had no right to the land. It is a question of policy and of protection and of welfare. There is no question of compensation arising. If the hon. Member proposes any scheme to compensate all the poor people, I shall be glad to serve as one of the trustees."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“What the U.D.F. proposes is to take back all those lands squandered away and restore them to the people's Government. I want to know whether compensation will be given to those who had expended money in bringing the land under cultivation and who were asked to give up their lands to political sufferers?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The premises of the hon. Member are all wrong. There is no question now of dispossessing any person who has either spent money or not spent money. The question is asked, whether we will give compensation to people who have spent money and who have been dispossessed in favour of political sufferers. It is impossible for me to answer this question because it is not the intention to dispossess even a man who has not spent money.”

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—“Will the Hon. Chief Minister inform the House whether the Government have consulted the Legal Department regarding the validity of these assignments without a law being passed for that purpose?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The question is, whether legal advice was taken before assignments were made. The assignments were made—as the hon. Member is aware—before this Government came to office. Since this question relates to an earlier period, I can answer only from the information I have, viz., that no legal advice was taken. The assignments were made by the Revenue Department to applicants for lands which were not under cultivation and which were available for assignment. There is no question of legal opinion.”

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—“Will the Hon. Chief Minister now consider the advisability of having the matter re-examined as the assignment of lands without passing an appropriate law was invalid and that no compensation need be given?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Probably the hon. Member is referring to a very difficult question, with reference to the land tenure in our country. All these assignments have been made under the laws governing assignments of land in our country from time immemorial. If the hon. Member means to say that we must re-enact laws, bring Bills and pass laws governing holding of lands in our country, it would be nothing short of utter chaos.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“On a point of Order, Sir. The Hon. Chief Minister said that there is no case of a man who, after having spent money on his land, has been dispossessed of his land. I gave one such case when I gave notice of a question recently but the Hon. Chairman has disallowed it.”

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“The reasons were given to the hon. Member as to why it was disallowed.”

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"This is concerning Periyakulam taluk, Madurai district, where a man who had been in possession of this land for three years and who had spent money on it had been dispossessed of his land. As the Hon. Chief Minister has asked to give instances of such cases, I request the Chair to allow my question. Either the question must be allowed so that the particular case may be examined or the Chief Minister must be prevented from telling a thing which is not correct."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I am sorry, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has curious notions about points of order. This is a curious point of order. As I have already said, it is impossible at the present moment under the present scheme, for any person who has spent money on any piece of land to be dispossessed because the order is very specific and everyone is following it and no assignment will be made where there is any previous occupant, whether he has spent money or otherwise. If the hon. Member is referring to past cases, he must put a separate question. If necessary, he may even write to me. I shall look into the files and tell him, if the Government dispossessed any man without paying compensation. I shall be glad to do it. When was it? Will the hon. Member kindly tell me?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In your Congress Ministry."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"What does the hon. Member mean by saying, 'your Congress Ministry'? Was it before this Government came into office?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Two years ago."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If it is a case which happened two years ago, I would request the hon. Member—if he wants me to correct anything wrong that had been done—to give me all the facts or write to me about them."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"On what grounds does the Hon. the Chief Minister disapprove of the principle of assigning lands to political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I understand, the question is, on what ground does this Government disapprove of the policy of assigning lands. The ground is that in this poor country, where any person has already taken possession of uncultivated land without licence and is cultivating it, he does so under stress of necessity and he is subject to extra levies in the course of the year from time to time. My view is—as I am asked to explain the reason in this case—it is not a good thing for any person who really took part in the struggle for national independence to dispossess such persons."

4-30 P.m. SRI M. HARISCHANDRA PRASAD:—"May I suggest to the Government, Sir, that, when assigning lands to political

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sufferers, they do not interfere with the lands kept for communal purposes, like guntas, tanks, etc., to avoid frictions in the villages? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ Any acquaintance with the rules on the subject would show that nobody can make or allow such assignments to be made of lands which are used for communal purposes. Such lands cannot be assigned at all. In cases where there is any doubt there is an inquiry held. The Collector assigns only such lands as are not required for communal purposes.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“ I believe the Hon. Minister did not follow my previous question. Why does he disapprove of the principle of assigning lands to political sufferers and why does the present Ministry not approve the policy of the past Ministry, as distinct from the question whether it is right or wrong to dispossess a person to whom land is assigned and he has spent money on it in improving it? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ I thought I made it quite clear. A man or a Government disapprove of a thing because in his opinion or in their opinion the thing is wrong. I have already said, I consider it wrong for one who claims to be a patriot, after doing a patriotic service, to ask for a return for such service, especially in the form of grant of land which is in the occupation of another person, who for the sake of maintaining himself has squatted on that land. The circumstances show the stress of poverty of the individual. But while anything wrong or unlicensed should be set right, such poor men should not be deprived of their means of subsistence. I do not disapprove of the policy of grants to men who have done national service but I disapprove of the consequences of that policy. I do not quite understand what the object of the question is. I have answered it as far as I could understand it.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“ Does the disapproval go to the extent of getting back the land? Is it disapproval in words or in action also? ”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ The disapproval is in words, and as far as law permits in action as well, and as far as I can get influence to bear upon people without the help of law, I shall also try to do it. But I cannot go beyond a certain point. If the hon. Member who puts the question suggests these things for his own purposes and if I followed the hon. Member's opinion even my conduct would be misunderstood.” (Laughter.)

Minimum wages for agricultural labour.

• • 13 Q.—**SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to fix minimum wages for agricultural labour; and

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(b) if so, when the proposals will be finalized and orders issued?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“(a) Yes, Sir.

“(b) A special enquiry is being conducted in low wage areas of the State. Orders will be issued after examination of the results of the enquiry.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—“May I enquire whether it is proposed to fix the minimum wages for agricultural labour in cash or in kind?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“It has not been decided yet, Sir. As soon as the report is received, Government will consider in what manner it should be fixed. At the present moment, it is paid in different forms, sometimes in cash and sometimes in kind.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, whether the recommendation to be made, is, as to what should be the minimum wages?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“Yes, Sir; the minimum wages for agricultural labour. We are now conducting an inquiry in the low wage areas in the State and we hope to finish the inquiry before 31st December 1953.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“May I know whether any committee has been appointed to go into the question. Because I know as a matter of fact, in all matters of fixing minimum wages, a committee is being appointed first to go into the question; then, when it submits its report, the Government examine it, and then the Labour Commissioner finalizes the recommendations. Have all these steps been taken before fixing the minimum wages?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“I have already said that at the present moment we are making an investigation to find out if there is sub-standard wage paid to agricultural labour, and if so, in which areas. As soon as that report is received, it will be the time then, to decide whether a committee should be appointed and if so, who should be the personnel of that committee.”

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—“Sir, in the light of the urgent necessity to pay adequate wages to agricultural labour, will the Hon. Minister see that the report of the inquiry is brought out within the course of the next six months. Of course, he says, it will be received by the end of December 1953. But as the matter is urgent, will he see that it is brought out within the next six months?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“Sir, I may tell the hon. Member that it has taken us three months to investigate 84 villages. In the eleven districts we have taken up for this inquiry, we intend to make a survey in 425 villages; and it seems rather too big a promise to make to finish this within six months.”

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Sir, in view of the troubled conditions prevailing in Tanjore district, as the standard of wages for agricultural labour there is about the lowest, will the Hon. Minister take up the inquiry there first and finish it as quickly as possible?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"In the eleven districts taken up by Government, Tanjore does not find a place. The eleven districts we have chosen are areas where absolutely low wages for agricultural labour prevail. That shows that Tanjore district is certainly better off than Bellary, Visakhapatnam, North Arcot, etc., which are all low wage areas."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"What does the Hon. Minister mean by 'no' wages? Am I to understand that people there are working for no wages?"

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS:—"Low wages."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"I said 'low' wages."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know what those eleven districts are?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"They are Bellary, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, North Arcot, South Kanara, Chittoor, South Arcot, Nellore, Chingleput, Salem and Kurnool."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Does the Hon. Minister mean that in these districts the agricultural wages paid are lower than those paid in Tanjore district?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"My information is that the distress is more acute in those areas than in Tanjore district. In view of the suggestion of the hon. Member that in Tanjore district it is worse, I shall consider his suggestion."

Provincialization of the posts of Municipal Commissioners.

* 14 Q.—**SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the municipal councils have agreed to the provincialization of the posts of Municipal Commissioners;

(b) if so, whether the posts of Municipal Commissioners have accordingly been provincialized;

(c) the comparative scales of pay for Municipal Commissioners, Municipal Health Officers and Municipal Engineers of the several grades;

(d) the stage, at which the constitution of a combined service for all employees of local boards and municipal councils stands; and

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(e) whether the employees of local boards and municipal councils of several categories including teachers will be granted the same scale of pay and allowances as corresponding Government servants?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“(a) A Majority of the municipal councils have agreed to the proposal of the Government for constituting a Municipal Service for Municipal Commissioners in the State under section 77-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

“(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

“(c) The scales are these:—

Grades.	Municipal Commissioners.	Municipal Health Officers.	Municipal Engineers.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
I	300-25-500	50-30/2-340-40/2-580	500-50/2-850
II	200-10-300	160-20/2-280 (Medical graduates and men with L.M. & S. qualifications are started on Rs. 200 in that scale).	260-30/2-380-40/2-500.
III	150-5-200		150-10-250.

“(d) There is no such proposal under consideration.

“(e) Peons and attenders under District Boards and Municipal Councils are given the same scales of pay as in Government service. The scales of pay of other classes of servants excluding teachers of local boards and municipal councils are lower than those, applicable to servants of the State. There is no proposal to grant them the scales of pay admissible to corresponding posts in the State Service. The scales of pay for teachers in schools under local bodies are lower than those applicable to teachers in Government schools.

“However, certain municipalities whose financial position was satisfactory, have been permitted to adopt Government scales of pay for their teachers in elementary schools. No district boards have been permitted to adopt Government scales of pay for their teachers in elementary schools. So far as teachers in secondary schools are concerned, it is open to local bodies to adopt Government scales of pay for teachers, with the sanction of Government, if the local bodies can finance the extra cost. Many local bodies have adopted Government scales of pay for their teachers in secondary schools. The sanction is generally accorded if the local body can meet the extra cost from its own funds.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“I should like to know whether the Madras Corporation is included in the municipalities of this province?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“I think it is included, Sir.”

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SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“ Then, will the Hon. Minister let me know what difference there is between the salary of the elementary grade teachers of the Corporation and the salary given to the same class by Government? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ I think a fresh question may be put.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“ May I know what the amount is of allowance, I think, it is called dearness allowance, given to teachers in Government elementary schools? Is it according to what is called cost of living index number, or is it a lump sum fixed by the Government? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ Notice.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“ It is a curious thing that the Hon. Minister does not know, on what basis the dearness allowance is being fixed. If he does not know it, I can give him the information.”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ I cannot give the answer offhand as I may commit mistakes.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH :—“ Will Government make it mandatory on the part of local boards and municipalities to pay to their employees the Government scales of pay? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ It is not mandatory; it is only left to their option.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH :—“ I am asking, will the Government make it mandatory on the part of local boards and municipalities to implement the Government scales of pay to their employees? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ That is under the consideration of the Government. The suggestion will be considered.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH :—“ Is it a fact that the Kurnool District Board has passed a resolution some time back to permit them to implement Government scales of pay to their employees, but that this Government have not approved of their action? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ I have no information. A fresh question may be put.”

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY :—“ May I know, Sir, why even after five years of Swaraj, Government do not recognize teachers irrespective of the agency they may be serving under as national servants, discharging the primary functions of the Government and as entitled to a salary on a par with that of teachers serving directly under the Government auspices? ”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ This question may be put to the Hon. Education Minister.” (Laughter.)

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—“ With reference to the scales of pay of the several municipal officers furnished by the

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Hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, whether it is not proper to give the Commissioners of Municipalities who are the chief executive officers at least the scales of pay fixed for the respective grades of Municipal Health Officers and Municipal Engineers? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"The scales of pay seem to be low and they will be decided when a separate service for Municipal Commissioners is constituted."

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. THE CHAIRMAN.

(1) ELECTION OF SIX MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to inform the House that the following candidates were nominated for election to the House Committee for the financial year 1952-53:—

1. Sri K. Suryanarayana.
2. ,, Sri A. Subramanyam.
3. ,, T. Purushothama Mudaliar.
4. ,, R. Nathamuni Reddy.
5. ,, V. Ramakrishna.
6. ,, M. P. Sivagnana Gramany

"As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., six, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.

"In addition to the above, under Rule 144 of the Madras Council Rules, I nominate the following two members to be members of the said Committee:—

1. Sri M. Sudarasanam.
2. Srimathi J. Sitamahalaaxmi.

(2) ELECTION OF NINE MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to inform the House that the following candidates were nominated for election of nine members to the Committee of Privileges, for the financial year 1952-53:—

1. Sri M. P. Govinda Menon.
2. ,, V. Gurunandan Row.
3. ,, V. Bhashyam Ayyangar.
4. ,, V. R. Ranganathan.
5. ,, N. Venkateswarlu.
6. ,, K. Bhashyam.
7. ,, N. Satyanarayana.
8. ,, S. Chengalraya Chetty.
9. ,, Mrs. M. N. Clubwala.

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[Mr. Chairman]

“ As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., nine, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee of Privileges.”

(3) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“ I have to announce to the House that two nomination papers were filed proposing the following candidates for election to the State Library Committee:—

1. Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu.
2. „ C. Perumalsami Reddy.

“ Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu's nomination was not made in the prescribed form and hence his nomination paper was rejected.

“ C. Perumalsami Reddy, the other candidate has withdrawn his candidature by notice in writing.

“ Therefore fresh nominations have to be called for. I fix, 4 p.m., on Monday, the 7th July as the last hour when the nominations in the prescribed form should be handed over to the Secretary from whom the nomination forms can be obtained.

“ There will be an election between 11 a.m. and 1-30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 9th July 1952 if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote.”

(4) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE REORGANIZED MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“ I have to announce to the House that Sri T. J. M. Wilson is the only candidate duly nominated for the election of one Member of the Legislative Council to the Local Advisory Committee of the reorganized Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. I hereby declare him duly elected.”

(5) ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“ I have to announce to the House that the following three candidates were duly nominated for election to the Senate of the Annamalai University:—

1. Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.
2. Srimathi S. Mansubhashini.
3. S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar.

*Srimathi S. Manjubhashini has since withdrawn her candidature.

“ As the number of candidates remaining is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled in, viz., two, I hereby declare them duly elected to the Senate of the Annamalai University.”

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III.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE
YEAR 1952-53.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, ever since the Hon. the Chief Minister accepted the leadership of the Congress Party and accepted his appointment as Chief Minister, there has been a propaganda, both in the Press and outside, creating and fostering certain illusions that Rajaji is going to solve the vital problems of the country by a new approach to them and also that he would set right the misrule that had been taking place during the last five years of Congress Raj. We all waited, Sir, till the Budget because in the first session we had nothing but a discussion on the Governor's Address. We thought that this Budget would present a really new approach to the problems and would not be on the same lines as either the previous Congress Government's Budget or any other previous Budget. The people are slowly becoming disillusioned because today this Budget is in no way different from not only the previous Congress Budgets but also the British Budgets even before the days of dyarchy. Sir, I must say there is one exception about this Budget. There is something which has become worse now than even during British dyarchy.

“ In 1945-46, there were reserves of about Rs. 43 crores accumulated by the Advisers' Government which were intended for post-war reconstruction and other schemes. But, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on page 22 now says, ‘ We would have practically exhausted all our accumulated reserves during the course of this year.’ It is, Sir, against all canons of public finance, not the economics of either Marx or Engels but the bourgeois economics of probably Keynes, Laski or anybody like that, to throw away your reserves in whatever direction you want. There must be some reserves to meet certain emergencies. In this connection, I will explain how these reserves are being taken up in the Budget. It is admitted by the Hon. the Finance Minister that we are passing through lean years. It is not as though we are in a flourishing condition; we are in a period of crisis and still at the end of this year we will have nothing to fall back upon if there is a famine or any other emergency. This is the first criticism that I have to make and it is that this Budget leaves any future Government absolutely high and dry quite unable to meet any emergency and we will have to go hat in hand to the Central Government and beg of them for more subventions or grants or loans.

“ The next point I want to make is rather a serious one. I hope I am wrong. There seems to be a mysterious disappearance of money amounting to more than one crore and a half of rupees. In this connection, I wish to refer you, Sir, to the Hon. the Finance Minister's speech at page 21. In dealing with the ways and means position, the Finance Minister says: ‘ Against this sum, we were having at the beginning of the year about Rs. 14½ crores worth of securities’ How he gets this figure of Rs. 14½ crores is beyond my comprehension but, I think, Sir, the figures should be Rs. 19.4 crores as the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has also stated in his

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speech presenting the interim Budget for 1952-53 on 15th March 1952, page 7, that 'after meeting all the outstanding liabilities, we may expect to close the current year with an unattached balance of about Rs. 19 crores. The White Paper issued on the interim Budget also says that Rs. 19.4 crores should be the unattached balance of reserves at the end of the current year 1951-52. Now, Sir, how this Rs. 19.4 crores has become Rs. 14½ crores is not explained. I have tried to find it out and I hope that to some extent I have been able to reconcile the statement; whereas the previous Budget provided for a deficit of only Rs. 10 lakhs, the actual preliminary accounts have shown that it is Rs. 329 lakhs. It is only 33 times more. This shows how the revised estimates have been made but still even if this amount of Rs. 329 lakhs is added to the Rs. 14½ crores it does not come to Rs. 19.4 crores. I would like the Hon. the Finance Minister to explain to this House what has happened to the balance. The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has said that at the end of the financial year 1951-52 there would be Rs. 19.4 crores as reserves and the preliminary account only shows a deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs in the Revised Budget. Therefore the question which the Hon. the Finance Minister will now have to explain is whether any amounts have been drawn from the Consolidated Fund without any authority. (Interruption from the Hon. the Finance Minister). Yes, Sir, the revised estimate for the year 1951-52 had shown from the eight months' actuals that only 10 lakhs of rupees would be the deficit during that year but curiously enough, though it is tried to be explained away by the slump and therefore taxes have been introduced and also the fact that seasonal conditions were adverse and Government had to incur losses by way of remissions of land revenue, it still shows how our revised estimate is absolutely no criterion on which we can rely.

"Now, let us see, Sir, what the present Budget says. The present Budget Estimates are also equally unreliable, Sir, for this reason. Let me take an instance from the revenue part of the Budget. They expect two crores of rupees for the whole year from the tax on bus passengers.

"Sir, on what basis has this estimated yield of Rs. 1 crore in 5 p.m. the current year been made. Sir, if the Government tax a minimum of quarter anna as surcharge on passengers travelling by public transport buses and if the Government exempt Madras City for this purpose as announced by the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour, then Sir, I ask on what basis the Government are calculating that they will get this one crore of rupees for the remaining part of the year? If this Bill to levy a surcharge on passengers is passed, many people, particularly in the mofussil, will prefer to walk because they will have to pay quarter anna more even if it be a mile that they travel. This figure of estimated income is absolutely as unreliable as the figures that have been supplied in the past.

"Let me take an example of estimates prepared by Government on the expenditure side. A sum of about Rs. 50 lakhs has been set apart under the Demand for Education to meet the cost of educational concessions to the children of non-gazetted officers. Sir, I do

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not know on what basis this estimate has been made. Are the Government aware of the number of children of non-gazetted officers? Has any enquiry been made as to the number of school-going children who will be entitled to these educational concessions. Sir, I may say the cost of these concessions may be anywhere from Rs. 20 lakhs to two crores of rupees. The estimate made by the Government is without any basis. The Government make just an estimate and afterwards find the estimate to be much less than the actuals. The deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs shown (in the revised estimate for the year) in the Budget speech of the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has now become Rs. 329 lakhs, i.e., nearly 33 times. All the estimates whether they are on the revenue or on the expenditure side are all equally unreliable.

“ Now Sir, I shall deal with the main question of revenue. I realize, Sir, that the limitations to the powers of taxation of the State Government are many. There is the Constitution which gives all the residuary powers of taxation to the Central Parliament. As it happens, Sir, most of the sources of taxation have already been exhausted. The only sources that are left, as far as taxation is concerned, are the agricultural income tax, succession duty and the surcharge on passengers travelling by public transport vehicles. Now, Sir, the policy of taxation should be so framed that the incidence of a tax should be on those that can bear. But it has been a habit with the Congress Government and it is in no way different with this Government, Sir, that the incidence of taxation is mostly on the common man, on the poor man. I shall show that it is so even in the case of the levy of surcharge on land revenue on larger holdings proposed by the Government where an attempt is made to appear that the levy is made only on richer classes. Sir, even the Hon. Mr. Shetty in his Budget speech in March this year accepted that taxation has reached the peak out-turn and it is expected to fall hereafter. There are many ways, Sir, by which this Government can save money and avoid taxing, as for instance passengers travelling by public transport vehicles.

“ The three major sources of revenue by which most of the income of this State is made up are land revenue, sales tax and the subvention from the Centre in regard to income tax, and these form nearly 40 per cent of the total revenue of the State Government. As regards land revenue, I may say that the land revenue system now prevailing is absolutely defective. Under this system, even the poorest pattadar, even the poorest peasant has to pay something to the Government on his land. There is no gradation at all in the incidence of this tax. Poor men are taxed in the same proportion as the rich men, provided the type of land is the same. Now, Sir, I have made some research in this matter. I find from the Subramaniam Committee's Report that 43 per cent of the number of pattadars pay Rs. 30 or less of land revenue, and these 94 per cent of the pattadars pay only about 45 per cent of the total land revenue. These figures show that six per cent of the pattadars pay something more than 50 per cent of the land revenue. They also show the high concentration of land holdings in the hands of

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a few in the State. I shall now come to the question of the levy of a surcharge on land revenue that is now proposed by the Government. I say, Sir, that this levy of a surcharge on land revenue should not be made on the ground already given, namely, that the whole system of land revenue should give place to an agricultural income tax levied on a steeply graded basis with exemption up to a particular limit; the income tax limit most likely will be the most reasonable exemption limit. If the Government to-day try to levy a surcharge on land revenue, it is absolutely useless because the burden of the levy will really fall upon the share cropper. Unless the Government have a law whereby they can give every tenant occupancy right and whereby they can give every tenant a fixation of rent, which will prevent their eviction and prevent landlords claiming exorbitant rent or share of the crop, any attempt to have land revenue surcharge without these safeguards means that whatever levy is demanded by the Government will be passed on to the share-cropper and there will be large scale eviction. Therefore, I oppose this levy on these grounds.

"As regards sales tax, the method of collection is neither equitable nor just. It hits the common man because this tax is levied on most essential commodities like foodstuffs. On the other hand, this tax on luxury articles like motor-cars is not very high and I think—I am not certain—it is about nine pies rupee on motor cars. In England, not in the Soviet Union, the Government are charging 26½ per cent as the purchase tax on motor cars. Why cannot the Government here introduce a similar thing for all luxury articles including motor cars? (Interruption—What about import duty on cars?) The incidence of taxation should only be on the people who can bear and a man who can purchase a car for Rs. 14,000 can certainly pay 25 per cent more as sales tax. A graded system of sales tax should be levied on all luxury articles which the common man does not need and foodstuffs and other essential articles should be exempted from the operation of this tax.

"As far as the administration of sales tax is concerned, there is a lot of harassment of the merchants by the officials. I suggest the constitution of committees of merchants for purposes of consultation regarding the procedure of collection of this tax. It must not be thought that all merchants are evaders of tax. Just as the Government have put faith in them and removed controls, they have to put faith on them—big as well as small merchants. If the Government put faith on them, then there will not be so much harassment by the petty officials.

"Then, Sir, I shall come to the question of one other source of revenue which has been lost as a result of the introduction of Prohibition. I do not think anybody will doubt that Prohibition has been a total failure. In fact it has become a cottage industry. Sir, I have nothing to say against fighting the evils of drink. Government cannot fight the evils of drink by merely passing a law, 'Thou shall not drink'. The argument that was put up, Sir, was that the poor man after spending all his earnings in the

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toddy shop used to go home and beat his wife and that Prohibition was necessary to save him and his family. Both on grounds of health and social betterment, Prohibition was sought to be justified. But to-day it has become a cottage industry. Not only the poor man, Sir, but his wife and children also have started to drink. There is another problem, Sir, namely, preventing people from drinking all sorts of injurious drinks which are being sold almost openly. Sir, in the interests of the health of the people, Prohibition must be dropped. I can understand, Sir, Government pursuing the policy of Prohibition if it is a success. When it is in fact really a failure, I do not see any reason why the Government should lose a revenue of 15 crores of rupees which they used to get before.

5-15
P.m.

“ The question of tainted money does not arise because after all you are giving permits to people and you are charging for it. In this connexion, I may point out that I was surprised to find one item in the Budget which I am not able to explain, a fairly large amount is spent on the supply of opium; I saw some such thing in the statement and I am unable to find out where it is stated and I shall refer to it later. If you are going to sell opium and are going to make money out of the sale of opium and are making money from the issue of permits for the consumption of foreign liquor, where is the question of the tainted money?

“ About the surcharge on passenger tickets on buses, I wish to say it is beyond doubt a most unreasonable tax. First of all there is a distinction made between the City and the mufassal. Let me also examine its incidence. We shall take the case of a car owner; on the assumption that on an average, it gives 24 miles per gallon, it works to one pie per mile and if it is a four seater, it is just a quarter pie per mile. The car owner does not pay it straight but pays by way of tax on a gallon of petrol. But in the case of the bus traveller, who has to go by the bus for his avocation, he has to pay a minimum of a quarter anna per mile whether he travels two furlongs, one or two miles. Even if we take that it is a two-seater that the car owners possesses, the rate will work to only half a pie per mile whereas the ordinary man has to pay three pies per mile. Is that the way that the incidence of taxation should work; is the poor man not sufficiently burdened? Let me take another aspect of the case. You have given some concession to the N.G.Os. in the matter of educational facilities and you have provided Rs. 50 lakhs for that purpose but what you give with one hand you take away with both hands. He has to pay the bus fare and the bus fare for his children. There are also others who do not get any benefit out of this Rs. 50 lakhs. There are many Government servants who have not got the advantage of this concession with the result that they not only not get the concession but also they have to be subject to this additional taxation. So it will all boil down to this that you want to cover your deficit by taxing the poor. What is the amount that you will be getting from this source—petrol tax—only Rs. 30 lakhs?

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“ Taking the expenditure side, I am pained to observe that in several departments, the same old methods, the same old expenditure and the same old waste is being continued as it has been all these years. There is nothing new except for a few changes here and there between this and the interim Budget as far as expenditure is concerned. Let me take the Demand for Education. The Hon. the Chief Minister when he presented the Budget said that we spent only Rs. 2½ crores in 1945-46 whereas now we are spending Rs. 11 crores. It may be four times what we spent previously but the question is when we shall be able to reach the targets we have fixed for ourselves. I am reminded of what happened when I was in England. The British people used to tell me how much they were spending and how they were spending more and more year after year and we used to calculate and tell them that at the rate at which they were proceeding in regard to educational facilities, they would take 273 years before they can make the whole of India literate. I would like to be contradicted by the Hon. the Minister for Education when I say that the progress is something like that even now and I would like to ask him whether the rate of progress has been accelerated during the last five years; or we shall have to wait for 253 years to come.

“ If we take Agriculture another big sum is shown as spent as compared with 1945-46. But the point to be considered is how it is being spent. Let us take the hoax about tractors, seeds and manures. To-day the tractor driver is given a pay of Rs. 40 and some allowance and he has to do very hard work as he has to go to fields far off from his home but inadequate batta will be paid to him. Naturally he goes to the rich peasant and works on his field and gets some bakshis with the result that the poor peasant does not get any benefit out of the scheme. There are two types of tractors, the wheel tractor and the caterpillar tractor to be used according to the nature of the field; there is no co-ordination, each going in its own way without reference to particular kind of ground that it is to work on and the whole amount is mis-spent and the peasant is absolutely not benefited from these schemes. If the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture would come with me incognito not as a Minister, I shall show him that fieldmen send him reports, which are all false and which are made so that they can keep their job.

“ About Public Health, the question of the inadequacy of the strength of the Medical Department is generally recognized and the grants made to hospitals are totally insufficient. I shall illustrate by one example. Taking the case of the Krishnagiri hospital, the hospital is treating about 300 patients a day and the annual grant for that hospital for purposes of medicine is only Rs. 10,000. There is a private doctor in that place, who is treating about 60 patients per day but he requires Rs. 1,000 a month for his medicines. They are treating five times the number treated by the private doctor with less than what the private doctor requires for his medicines for his 60 patients per day.

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Under those circumstances, how can the two doctors give any attention to the patients coming to the hospital, unless they merely give them some coloured water; they cannot give it.

"Another subject which is very important is forests. It is one of the most important departments because it can stop soil erosion and we can prevent drought by proper afforestation. What is the policy of the new Government, the Government of the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari; I find there is absolutely no difference. Out of the Rs. 83 lakhs spent for the department only Rs. 4 lakhs odd are being spent for regeneration and conservation of forests. But the amount of profit made out of the sale of timber is going on on the increase and nobody seems to bestow any care on the question of extending forests and whether it is good to take timber without putting in anything and whether you can go on felling trees and selling timber and showing large amount of profits without planting more forests. Are we merely to rely upon prayer for our rains? We must have our forests in good condition in the interests of food production of the country, to prevent droughts and check soil erosion.

"I wish to observe that in regard to the Police Budget, it does not show the complete expenditure for that department. It is the stereotyped statement that is found there. Something is also included under General Administration because of village policing and we do not know how much it costs. If I try to look into General Administration there are several things in respect of which I am unable to know what that expenditure is made up of. I must submit, Sir, this is not the way to give information to the House. We should be told how much actually is being spent upon the Police. There is no difference between the old one and this. Large amounts are going to be spent in the same old way as has been done for the last three years; it is gradually increasing. At any rate for the last two years, I find that the Budget is for a certain amount but the revised estimate is something higher than that and the preliminary accounts are still higher. Although the preliminary accounts for the last year show an expenditure of Rs. 7 crores odd, to-day the Budget provides for something less than that. But I am sure there will be the usual supplementary grant in the Revised Budget and the preliminary accounts as usual will show figures yet higher. Even though you know from the preliminary account that last year you have spent a certain amount you do not show that amount as the estimate. If you do not show like that, you do not also tell us why you expect an expenditure less than what has been spent last year.

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P.M.

"Sir, in this Police Demand, the peculiar thing is that items like Contingencies, Miscellaneous, Rewards, etc., come to 33 lakhs of rupees. Then, Sir, there is another factor, viz., Travelling Allowance. I do not know if policemen travel so much or travel by paying anything. I have never seen a policeman paying bus fare whenever he travels."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Have you ever travelled in a bus?"

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* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—" I always travel in a bus. I am a regular bus-goer.

" I am yet to see a police constable getting into a bus and paying the bus fare. Do you know what the travelling allowance for the whole of the State comes to? It comes to—you will be surprised to hear it—somewhere about 91 lakhs of rupees. What is this for? One would have thought that the police had no conveyance like lorries—and wagons and things like that. One could understand it if it stops there. Again, there comes the motor transport charges which come to Rs. 19 lakhs. So, in addition to spending Rs. 91 lakhs towards travelling allowance, there is this motor transport charge of Rs. 19 lakhs. Along with these two items, if items like Miscellaneous, Contingencies, etc., are added, they come to one crore and 43 lakhs of rupees. Is this expenditure just and proper? Is there any necessity for such an expenditure? I would like to know how much of travelling has been done for the purpose of keeping the Communists under control? Under this head, there is an item 'Miscellaneous and other Contingencies.' What are the other contingencies, we do not know.

" Then, Sir, I wish to refer to some of the excesses committed by the police in the past. The Hon. Chief Minister said that he is anxious to right the wrongs if people inform him about the wrongs done previously and here I shall inform him of a case where two Sub-Inspectors illegally detained a person and had him beaten in Coimbatore. The matter went up to the High Court and the High Court held that these two Sub-Inspectors were responsible for his illegal detention. Then what happened was that it was not the Government that took action but it was the other party that had to file an application to obtain sanction for prosecuting these police officers for perjury and it was granted. But till now, I ask, Sir, what has been done to those Sub-Inspectors? They have not been punished. No public enquiry has been made and no notice has been taken of the judgment of the High Court which, I understand, should be done in all cases where certain remarks are made against police officers."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" Is not the trial going on? "

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—" There is a case pending before the Supreme Court as the police officers had filed an application before it.

" Sir, the judgment of the Court gets absolutely no respect from this Government.

" Then, Sir, there is another case, where people have been forced to file *habeas corpus* petitions for the purpose of getting their release from police camps. This question of police camps is something scandalous. There is no law or order there and people are being taken straight from their houses and detained in police camps, and tortured and sometimes shot to death in cold blood.

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One such instance came to my notice. A person came to me and said that he wanted to file a *habeas corpus* petition in respect of a person who was arrested along with him and put in a police camp. The other person was not released and he was still there. I filed the petition and what is the result? After the notice was given and before the date of the hearing, the person who filed the *habeas corpus* on behalf of his friend, came to me and said: 'Please withdraw it. Otherwise, my life and the life of my family are in danger in the place where I am.' So, Sir, I was compelled to withdraw that petition. But the police reported later on that the man was shot in an encounter. It is an invention of the police that he was shot in an encounter. These are the types of instances and one's blood begins to boil when he hears such instances. There is no law or order and what has this Government done to right the wrongs that have been done?

"Sir, the Hon. Chief Minister said yesterday in the Assembly that the police force could be disbanded if the Communists had accepted his advice about God. It would appear as though the police are there only for the Communists. It would mean that the Hon. Chief Minister wants to ram God down our throats with the aid of the police. If he has got so much faith in God, then why does he want the police? Why has he no faith in God? He said that it is his old habit to talk about God. In the name of God, what did he do when he was the Home Minister of the Central Government? He allowed hundreds of peasants in Telangana to be shot. He allowed the Constitution to be amended so that the fundamental rights of the people are amended. Sir, all this has been done in the name of God and I am glad that I do not have any belief in such a God who makes a tool of the Chief Minister to do His inscrutable will. The Hon. Chief Minister has tried a number of times to make this anti-Communism his chief weapon. He has tried to say that Communism is the danger and that it is a choice between Rajaji's Government and the Communist Government. There is nothing new in this matter. The old Congress Government lived on anti-Communism. The Congress party was rejected by the electorate because of its anti-Communist prejudice and still this Government have not learnt the lesson. In areas where this Government said that the Communists had committed atrocities, there the Communists have been returned in large numbers. Also in places where there was oppression by the Government, Communists have been returned. The absolute absence of law and order is the main reason why the Congress Party has failed to get a majority. Any stick is good enough to beat the Communists with, as far as the Hon. Chief Minister is concerned."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The hon. Member is referring to what I said in the other House. It is not quite relevant to the Budget debate. I said that the Communists were not so much a danger as the instability of mind of the intellectual classes."

4th July 1952]

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"Yes, Sir, if the Government want to take any action against the people, they always call them Communists—whether they belong to the intellectual class or any other class. As I said, any stick is good enough to beat the Communists with as far as the Chief Minister and his Ministry are concerned."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If the hon. Member is serious about it, does the hon. Member who is a lawyer of standing not know that quite a number of murders—I do not wish to go into actual numbers—had been committed in the Telangana area by the Communists? Is he not aware of it?"

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"I will leave it to my hon. Friend Mr. Rajeswara Rao to reply to this."

"Sir, all that I wanted to say is that Communists were and are still being made scapegoats for any happening in the country. For anything and everything, it is the Communists that you blame. You would blame them for raising discontent among the people."

"Sir, what is the new thing in this Budget? There is absolutely nothing worth mentioning in this Budget. It has been prepared in the same old way. It is the same old Budget, and the same old way of taxing the poor."

"Sir, I want to say one thing about this talk of God by the Hon. Chief Minister. If he is logical enough about this faith in God, why not he abolish all portfolios and have only one portfolio, namely, God? That is the logical thing that he should do. There is no point in saying that he has faith in God. Why not everything be done by God? What is the necessity for human action? Where does the human action come in? After all, this is not the place where you can rely on God for everything. You must also rely on the people."

"Finally, I would say this. Whatever the Hon. Chief Minister may say about Communists, I hope, I will be pardoned by him if I say something about him. If he had served the people with half the zeal with which as he said, he served his God, he would not be in the present predicament."

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்தச் சபையில் கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் சமர்ப்பிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கும் வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்."

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"வரவு செலவு திட்டம் என்பது ஒவ்வொரு வருஷமும் அந்தந்த வருஷத்திற்குண்டான வரவு செலவுகளைப்பற்றி அரசாங்கத்தால் ஒரு திட்டம் வகுக்கப்பட்டு, அந்தத் திட்டமானது சட்டசபைக்கு முன் வைக்கப்பட்டு, அதன்மீது அங்கத்தினர்கள் விவாதத்தை நடத்தி, கடைசியாக அந்தத் திட்டமானது நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டிருக்கையின்பின், அப்படி கொண்டுவரப்படும் திட்டத்தின் மீது விவாதத்தை நடத்தும்போது, அதில் என்னென்ன குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன, அதில் இன்னும் என்ன திட்டங்கள் சேர்க்கப்பட வேண்டும், அவ்விதம் சேர்த்தால் ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏற்படும் நன்மைகள்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [4th July 1952]

என்னவென்பதையெல்லாம் பொது விவாதத்தில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசலாம். ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மை ஏற்படுகிற வகையில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசவேண்டுமென்பது தான் என்னுடைய கோரிக்கையாகும். ஆகவே, நமது தலைவர கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் இந்த சபைமுன் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருக்கும், வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை அப்படியே ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“அப்படியானால், இங்கிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு என்ன வேலை? அப்படியே ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறீர்களே! என்று என்னைக் கேட்கலாம். கனம் ஸ்ரீ ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு தூரம் இந்தாட்டு மக்களின் அன்பைப் பெற்றிருக்கிறார் என்பதை நான் உங்களுக்குச் சொல்லத் தேவையில்லை. இந்தத் தேசத்திற்கு சுதந்திரம் கிடைத்திருக்கிற தென்னாற்கு அது யாரால் கிடைத்தது? அது மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளால் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. அவருக்கேட்படியாக நமது தலைவர கனம் சக்கரவர்த்தி ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்களால் தான் என்பதையும் யாரும் மறுக்கமாட்டார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு தலைவரானவர் நமக்கு இந்தச் சமயத்தில் கிடைத்திருக்கிறார். இந்த நாட்டிலுள்ள கஷ்டங்களைப் போக்குவதற்கு, இந்தாட்டிலுள்ள பஞ்சத்தைத் தீர்ப்பதற்கு, இந்தாட்டில் அராஜகம் ஏற்படாமல் தடுப்பதற்கு, இந்தாட்டில் வேட்கை திண்டாட்டத்தை ஒழிப்பதற்கு, இந்தாட்டில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பல சிக்கல்களைத் தீர்த்து வைப்பதற்கு அவரைத் தவிர வேறு ஒருவர் இருக்கின்றார் என்று மனம் துணிந்து எவரேனும் சொல்வார்களேயானால், அவர்கள் தங்கள் மனச்சாட்சிக்கு விரோதமாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்று தான் சொல்லவேண்டும். அவரைப்பற்றி நான் வெகுவாகப் புகழ்ந்தகொண்டேயிருந்தால், நான் அவரை ஸ்தோத்திரம் செய்கிறேன் என்று நீங்கள் சொல்லிவிடுவீர்கள். ஆனால் உண்மையை மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது.

“சுயராஜ்யம் கிடைத்து ஒரு சில ஆண்டுகள் ஆகின்றன. ‘ஓராயிரம் ஆண்டு ஒய்ந்து கிடந்த பின்னர், வாராது போல் வந்த மாமணியைத் தோற்போமோ’ என்றார் பாரதியார். நாங்கள் இதைத் தோற்றுவிடமாட்டோம், விட்டுவிடமாட்டோம் என்கிறார் பாரதியார். இந்த நாட்டை ஆண்டு வந்த ஆங்கிலேயர்கள் ஒரு நெருக்கடியான சமயத்தில் இந்த நாட்டை விட்டு விட்டுப் போய்விட்டார்கள். எந்த தேசத்திலேனும் ஒரு அரசாங்கம் மாறி இன்னொரு அரசாங்கம் வருமேயானால், அராஜகம் ஏற்படாமல் இருந்திருக்கிறதா? கிண்டியாது. சரித்திர பூர்வமாக இல்லையென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். இந்த நாடு சுதந்திரமடைந்த பிறகு யாதொரு அமைதி பங்கமும் ஏற்படாமல் நமது சர்க்கார், நாம் நிர்ணயித்துக்கொண்ட சர்க்கார், நம்மைக் காப்பாற்றிக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறது. அப்படியிருக்கும் போது நீங்களே உங்களைக் குறைகூறிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அது எனக்கு அவமானகரமாக இருக்கிறது. சிக்கமுடியவில்லை. இந்த நாட்டில் நமக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற சிக்கல்கள் எவ்வளவு, கஷ்டங்கள் எவ்வளவு, வேருடமாக மழை இல்லாமல் பஞ்சத்தினால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களுக்கு உணவளித்துக் காப்பாற்றி வந்திருக்கிறது இந்த சர்க்கார். இதே நிலைமையில் இன்னொரு தேசம் இருந்திருக்குமேயானால், இத்தனை நான் கொலையும் குழப்பமும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும். அந்த விதமான ஒரு நிலை ஏற்படாமல் நமது சுதந்திர சர்க்கார் இந்த நாட்டைக் காப்பாற்றி வந்திருக்கிறது.

“நண்பர் கனம் ஸ்ரீகுருநாதன் ராவ் அவர்கள் பேசுகிறபோது ‘போலீஸ் காரர்கள் பஸ்விலே பணம் கொடுக்காமல் பிரயாணம் செய்துவிட்டு சர்க்காரிடமிருந்து ட்ராவலிங் அலவன்ஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்கிறார்கள்’ என்று சொன்னார். நான் அவரை கேட்கிறேன், கேவலம் 30 ரூபாய் சம்பளம் வாங்குகின்ற ஒரு போலீஸ் மகன் எப்பொழுதோ ஒரு தடவை பஸ்விலே இனாமாக பஸ் முதலாளிகளின் தயவிலோ அல்லது கண்டக்டர் தயவிலோ சென்றான் என்றால், அதற்கு அவனுடைய ஏழ்மையான நிலைதான் காரணம். அதை லஞ்சமென்றும், அவனை லஞ்சப்பேய் என்றும், பிசாசு என்றும் வர்ணிப்பதற்கு இது தகுதியான இடமாயென்று கேட்கின்றேன்.

“‘கல்லாதவர்களே நல்லவர்கள். நல்லவர்கள் கற்றும் அறிவில்லாத கருமத்தை என் சொல்வேன்’ என்று தாயுமானவர் சொன்னார். படித்து விட்டு இப்படிப்பேசினால் அதை என்னவென்று சொல்வது?

4th July 1952] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

“ ஏழை என்றும் அடிமையென்றும் எவருமில்லை ஜாதியில், இழிவு கொண்ட மனிதர் என்போர் இந்தியாவில் இல்லை. 'என்றார் பாரதியார். இழிவுப் படுத்தும் மக்கள் இந்தக் கவுன்சிலிலும் வீற்றிருக்கிறார்கள். ஏழைகளைக் கண்டு ஏளனம் செய்பவர்கள் கம்யூனிசம் பேசுகிறார்கள். ஏழைகளைக் கண்டு எள்ளி நகையாடுபவர்கள் சமத்துவம் பேசுகிறார்கள், 'நாங்கள் அதிகாரத்தில் வந்தால் பாலும் தேனும் ஓடும் இந்நாட்டில்' என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்.

“ ‘கடவுளைப்பற்றி அடிக்கடி நினைக்கிறீர்களே, சொல்லுகிறீர்களே, கடவுள் உங்களிடம் வந்து நேராகப் பேசுகிறதா?’ என்று ஒரு சிலர் கேட்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சொல்வது ஒன்று, நாங்கள் சொல்வது ஒன்று; நாங்கள் சொல்வது தொன்றுதொட்டு நடப்பது ஆயிரக்கணக்கான வருஷங்களாக மனித சமூகம் ஏற்பட்ட நாள் முதல் ஒரு சீர்திருத்தம் ஏற்பட ஆரம்பித்ததிலிருந்து இன்று வரை அனுஷ்டானத்தில் இருந்துவருகிறது. எம்மத்தினராலும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளப்படாது.

“ நேற்றையதினம் நம்பிக்கைத் தீர்மானம் வந்தபொழுது தேசமக்கள் உங்களுக்கு என்ன பதில் சொன்னார்கள்? கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இதைக் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். கம்யூனிஸ்டு கையில் தேசம் இருப்பதாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்களென்றால், அவர்களுக்குச் சாதகமாக வேரூண்டு செய்தார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை மக்கள் ஆதரிப்பதாக ஒருவரும் நினைக்கக் கூடாது. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் தங்கள் மனப்பான்மையை மாற்றிக்கொண்டு இந்தத் தேசத்திற்கு உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டிய பணியைச் செய்ய வேண்டுமே தவிர, நல்ல காரியங்களுக்கு தடங்கலாக இருக்கக்கூடாது. கனம் சர்க்கார்வாத்திராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் தலைமையில் நடக்கும் இந்தச் சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக இல்லாமல், கம்யூனிஸ்டு அன்பர்கள் ஒழுங்காக நடந்து, இந்த தேசத்தைப் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஏழை மக்கள் பெயரால் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ மதுவிலக்கு பயன்று ஒரு குடிசைத் தொழிலாக மாறிவிட்டது என்று கனம் மெம்பர் ஒருவர் சொன்னார். அதைக் கேட்க நான் மிகவும் வருத்தப்படுகிறேன். இதற்கு முன் ஏழைகள் எப்படிச் செட்டுப்போனார்கள் என்பது எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அவர்களோடு நான் காடுகளிலும் மலைகளிலும் உழன்று வந்திருக்கிறேன். அதனால் அவர்களைப்பற்றி எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்கினால் சுகமாக வாழ்கிறார்கள் என்பதைச் சொல்லுவதற்கு எனக்கு யோக்கியதை உண்டு. மதுவிலக்கு தோற்றுவிட்டது என்ற அபிப்பிராயத்தில் இருப்பவர்கள் பெரிய செல்வந்தர்கள் ஏழைகளின் வாழ்க்கை என்னவென்பதை அறிந்து கொள்ள முடியாதவர்கள். அவர்களால் அறிந்து கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் சுகமாக மாறிகையிலும் அம்சதானிகாமஞ்சத்திலும் உரங்கிக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஒன்றும் தெரியாது. இந்த மதுவிலக்கைப்பற்றி அவதூறாகச் சொல்வது பிசு. மதுவிலக்கு ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ நல்லது செய்திருக்கிறது. மதுவிலக்கு விசாரணை கமிட்டி ஒன்று சர்க்காரால் நியமிக்கப்பட்டு அதைப்பற்றி விசாரித்து ரிபோர்ட்டு அனுப்பிக்கும்படி செய்தோம். அதற்கு காலம் சென்ற கனம் நாச்சியப்ப கவுண்டர் தலைவராக இருந்தார். நிலைமையை விசாரித்து ஒரு ரிபோர்ட்டையும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மதுவிலக்கினால் எவ்வளவோ நன்மை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று அக்கமிட்டி தெரிவித்தது. ஒன்றிரண்டு பேர்கள் கள் இறக்குகிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகவும் சிலர் சாராயம் காய்ச்சுகிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகவும் இது செட்டுப்போய்விட்டது என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. அதற்காக சட்டத்தை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுவதும் பிசு. கள்ளக்கடை தெருவில் வந்து விட்டது என்று சொல்வதும் அபத்தம். கோயம்பத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் மாத்திரம் இந்த சட்டம் வருவதற்கு முன் சுமார் ஒரு வருஷத்தில் 390 கொலைகள் நடந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் கள்ளக் கடைகளைஎடுத்து விட்ட பிறகு வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு 90 கொலைகள் தான் நடந்திருப்பதாகத் தெரிய வருகிறது. ஆகவே இந்த மதுவிலக்கு சட்டம் வருஷாவருஷம் ஒரு ஜில்லாவில் மாத்திரம் 300 பேர்களுக்கு பிராணபிச்சை கொடுத்திருக்கிறது. இன்னும் என்ன சாட்சி வேண்டும். ஜனங்கள் இப்பொழுது நல்ல துணி கட்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். நல்ல சாப்பாடு சாப்பிடக்கொண்டு

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வாழ்கிறார்கள். ஐந்து கோடி ஜனங்கள் நமது மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் $2\frac{1}{2}$ கோடி ஜனங்கள் பெண்கள். மீதமுள்ள $2\frac{1}{2}$ கோடியில் $1\frac{1}{2}$ கோடி 15 அல்லது 16 வயதிற்குட்பட்டவர்கள். அதில் குடிக்காதவர்கள் $\frac{1}{2}$ கோடி. மிச்சம் $\frac{1}{2}$ கோடி ஜனங்கள் தான் குடித்தார்கள். இந்த முக்கால் கோடி ஜனங்கள் 16 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானத்தைக் கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். அதை வாங்கிக்கொண்டுதான் நாம் சுகபோகம் அடைந்து கொண்டிருந்தோம். இந்த முக்கால் கோடி ஜனங்கள் ஁டைய பணத்திலிருந்துதான் நாம் சுகபோகம் அனுபவிக்கவேண்டுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். இது அநியாயம், பெரும் தவறுதலான காரியம். இவ்விதம் ஏதிரக்கட்சியினர் சொல்வதால் அரசாங்கம் இந்த சட்டத்தை விட்டு விடுவது கூடாது என்பதாக நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். சட்டத்தை சரியாக அமல் நடத்தவேண்டும். அஞ்சி பிச்சை கேட்காதே, கெஞ்சி மணியம் பன்னுதே என்பது பழமொழி. திருடினால் குற்றம் என்று சட்டத்தில் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் திருடாமல் இருக்கிறார்களா? திருடுகிறார்களே என்று சட்டத்தை எடுத்து விரிசுதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். மதுவிலக்கு சட்டத்தினால் ஜனங்கள் மிக மிக நன்மைகள் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நன்மையினால் முக்கால்வாசி ஜனங்கள் செளகரியமாக வாழ்கிறார்கள். மனைவி மக்கள் எல்லோரும் நல்ல உடை உடுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள், வீடு வாசல் குடும்பங்களுடன் சுகமாக வாழ்ந்து வருகிறார்கள். நம் மேல் அவர்கள் அன்பு வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மக்களுக்கு நன்மையைக்கொடுத்திருக்கும் மது விலக்கு சட்டம் எப்பொழுதும் இருந்து மக்கள் சுகமாக இருக்கவேண்டும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

6 p.m.

“இந்த பஞ்சகாலத்தில், அதுவும் 6 வருஷம் மறை இல்லாததால், கள்ளக் கடை இருந்திருந்தால் மக்கள் எல்லோரும் சாம்பராகப் போயிருப்பார்கள். சாப்பாட்டிற்கு வழி இல்லாமல் மண்ணோடு மண்ணை வங்காளத்தில் மாண்டு போனது போல் போயிருப்பார்கள். இங்கு அப்படி நடக்கவில்லை என்பதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். இந்தக் கள்ளக் கடை இல்லாததால்தான் ஏதோ கிடைக்கும் கொஞ்ச பணத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு கால் அல்லது அரை வயிறு சாப்பிட்டு ஜீவித்து வருகிறார்கள்.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, போலீஸ் படைகள் என்ன செய்தார்கள், ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த 6 வருஷ பஞ்சத்தில் நாட்டில் கொலையும் குற்றமும் நடை பெறாமல் ரத்தக் கிளறிகள் ஏற்படாமல் இது வரையில் தடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அது உங்கள் கண்ணுக்குத் தெரியவில்லையா? போலீஸ்காரர்கள் எவ்வளவோ தங்கள் கடமையை செய்து இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நீங்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். வெள்ளைக்காரர் ஆட்சி நடந்த காலத்தில் சமார் 30 வருஷத்திற்கு முன் சென்னையில் நடந்த ஒரு சம்பவம் இப்பொழுது எனக்கு ஁ரூபாக வருகிறது. அப்பொழுதும் ஒரு பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டது, அப்பொழுது பஞ்சத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட ஜனங்கள் ஁ததவாடையில் அரிசிக்கடைகளைக் கொள்ளையடித்துக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டார்கள். சூரியனே அஸ்தமிக்காது என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் அந்த வெள்ளைக்கார கவிதிபத்திய ராஜ்யத்தில் அவ்விதம் நடந்தது. இப்பொழுது 6, 7 வருஷ காலமாக பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டும் தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் திண்டாடி தெவிட்டு நிற்கும் பொழுதுகூட அப்படிப்பட்ட கொலை, திருட்டு ஒன்றும் நடக்கவில்லை. இது போலீசின் திறமையா, அல்லது கனம் மெம்பர் பேசினாரே அவருடைய திறமையா? நாம் எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து ஏற்படுத்தி வைத்து இருக்கும் அந்தப் போலீஸ் படையினால் தான் நாம் பகிரங்கமாக வெளியே உலாவுகிறோம் என்பதை மறக்கக்கூடாது.

“போலீஸ்காரர்கள் நம்முடைய சொத்தையும் பொருளையும் காப்பாற்றிக் கொடுத்தற்கு நாம் அவர்களுக்கு என்ன சன்மானம் செய்திருக்கிறோம் என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். தங்களுடைய உயிரையும் தியாகம் செய்து நம்மைக் காப்பாற்றுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுக்கு நாம் கொடுப்பது என்ன? கேவலம் முப்பது ரூபாய் மாதச் சம்பளமாகக் கொடுக்கிறோம். இந்த முப்பது ரூபாய்க்கு அவன் திண்டாடி தெருவில் நிற்கிறான். போலீஸ் படையினால் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை என்று சொல்வது தவறு. அவர்கள் நல்ல வேலை செய்கிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

4th July 1952]

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

“அடுத்தபடியாக நம் உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். ‘பேசிப்பயன் என்னடி கிளியே’ என்று பாரதியார் பாடினார். பேசுவதில் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை. உணவு நெருக்கடி தீருவதற்கு கிராமங்களில் நிறைய உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் பசி தீர்ந்து விடுமா? மழை பெய்யும் என்று நினைப்பதற்கு இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது மிகவும் கஷ்டமான நிலைமை. உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கு பணம் எங்கே யிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் வரி போட்டுக்கொள்ள என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒரு உபாத்தியாயருக்கு சம்பளம் ரூ. 30, பஞ்சப்படி ரூ. 18, ஆக ரூ. 48 அவனுக்கு வருகிறது. அவனுக்கு இன்றைக்கு அது போதுமானதாக இருக்குமா என்பதைப் பாருங்கள். இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் 30 ரூபாயை 60 ரூபாயாக வையுங்கள். பஞ்சம் தெளியத் தெளிய ரூ. 60-லிருந்து 40-ம், பிறகு 40-லிருந்து 30-ம், பிறகு 20, 10 என்று குறைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். இந்த முறையைக் கையாள் வேண்டுமென்று நாண்டிகேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“மற்றொரு வார்த்தை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஜில்லா போர்டில் உபாத்தியாயர்களாகவும், மற்றும் இதர ஸ்தாபனங்களில் உபாத்தியாயர்களாகவும் இருப்பவர்களை இங்கிருந்து அங்கும், அங்கிருந்து இங்கும் மாற்றப்படுகிறார்கள்— வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில், அரக்கோணம் தாலுகாவில் இருக்கும் உபாத்தியாயரை செங்கத்திற்கும், செங்கத்தில் இருப்பவரை அரக்கோணத்திற்கும் மாற்றிவிடுகிறார்கள். அரக்கோணத்தில் இருப்பவர் செங்கத்திற்கு மாற்றப்படுவதால் அவர் என்ன செய்ய முடியும்? ரூபாய் 30 சம்பளத்தில் எப்படி அவர் உயிர்வாழமுடியும்? ஆகையால் எல்லா பள்ளிக்கூடங்களையும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது மாதிரமல்ல, இதை மாகாண சர்வீசாகவும் மாற்றவேண்டும். மாகாண சர்வீசாக இருந்தால், ஒரு ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து இன்னொரு ஜில்லாவுக்கு மாற்றப்படும் நிலை ஏற்படாது, அவர்கள் உயர்ந்த சம்பளத்தைப் பெறுவதனால் அவர்களுக்கு செளகரியமான இடத்தில் வாழவும் வசதி இருக்கும். அப்படியில்லாமல் ஒரே ஜில்லாவில் உள்ள பல இடங்களுக்கு மாற்றப்படுவதால், அவர்களுக்கு பலவிதமான அசௌகரியங்கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன.

“சில ஊர்களில் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இருந்தாலும் உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு வீடுகள் கிடையாது. கல்விக்கு இருப்பிடமாக உள்ள அந்த புனித இடத்தில் மனைவி மக்களோடு குடியிருக்கவும் வேண்டிய நிலைமை ஏற்படுகிறது. குடியிருக்க வீடு கிடைக்காததால், சரஸ்வதி வாழ்கின்ற தூய்மையான இடத்தில் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் தம்பதியாக வாழும் இடமாகவும் ஆகின்றது. ஆகையால், உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு குடியிருக்க வீடு இல்லாமல் ஒரு ஊரில் பள்ளிக்கூடம் மட்டும் இருந்தால் பிரயோஜனமில்லை. ஒரு ஊருக்கு பள்ளிக்கூடம் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால், அந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்கு வேண்டிய உபாத்தியாயர்கள் குடியிருப்பதற்கு வீடுகள் கட்டிய பிறகே, பள்ளிக்கூடம் வைப்பதற்கு அனுமதி தரவேண்டும். அப்படி உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டிக்கொடுக்கப்பட்ட இடங்களுக்குப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைக்க அனுமதி தரக்கூடாது. இப்படிப்பட்ட உத்தரவை சர்க்கார் பிரப்பிக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் சர்க்காரால் ஒன்றும் பிரயோஜனமில்லை, சரியாக நடக்கவில்லை, எல்லாம் கெட்டுப் போய்விட்டது என்று எதிர்க்கட்சியினர் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி அவர்கள் சொல்வது சரியல்ல. அதற்குப் பதில் என்னவென்றால், ‘இந்த தேசத்தில் மக்கள் அதிகம் சாகாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்கு இந்த சர்க்கார் உதவி செய்கிறது’ என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு முன்பு குடியாத்தத்தில் முனிசிபல் ஹெல்த் ஆபீசரைப் பார்த்து, ‘இந்த முனிசிபலிட்யில் ஜனனம் எவ்வளவு? மரணம் எவ்வளவு?’ என்று கேட்டேன். ஐந்து மாதத்தில் 726 பேர்கள் பிறந்திருக்கிறார்கள், 296 பேர்கள் இறந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொன்னார்கள். கணம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இதை நீங்கள் கொஞ்சம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். பிறப்புக்கும் இறப்புக்கும் ஏறக்குறைய சமர்ப் 400 பேர்கள் அதிகமாயிருக்கிறார்கள் (உயிருடன்). ஆகையால் சாவே அதிகம் கிடையாது என்கூடச் சொல்லலாம். மக்கள் சாகா வரம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார்களோ என்று கூடச் சொல்லும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. இவ்வளவு தூரம் எத்தனாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

[4th July 1952]

என்றால், 'சானிடேஷன்' ரொம்ப முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்து விட்டது என்பதற்காகச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். சுகாதாரத்தில் தேர்ந்த அதிகாரிகள் முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளைக் கணனும் கருத்துமாகக் கவனித்து வருவதன்மூலம் அதிக சாவு ஏற்படாமல் இருக்கின்றது.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இந்நாட்டில் டாக்டர்கள் மிகக் கெட்டிக்காரர்களாயிருக்கின்றார்கள். இங்கு அநேக பெரிய டாக்டர்கள் அங்கித்தினர்களாக இருக்கும்போது, டாக்டர்களைப்பற்றி நான் அதிகம் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை; இருந்தாலும், டாக்டர்கள் எவ்வளவுதூரம் இந்நாட்டில் முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள், எவ்வளவு தூரம் ஜனங்களுக்கு உதவியாக அவர்களுடைய வேலைகளைச் செய்துவந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன். 'பெனிஸிலின்' என்று ஒரு இன்ஜெக்ஷன் மருந்து கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அது தலை நோவு, காலரா, ஜாம் போன்ற எல்லா வியாதிகளையும் குணப்படுத்தக்கூடிய சர்வ சஞ்சீவியாக இருக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக ஒரு கட்டி வந்தால், இந்தப் பெனிஸிலின் இன்ஜெக்ஷன் கொடுத்துவிட்டால், அந்தக் கட்டி மாயமாய் மறைந்துவிடுகிறது. இதற்கெல்லாம் மருந்து கண்டுபிடித்தும், பைபாய்டு ஜோரத்திற்குத்தக்க மருந்து இல்லை என்றிருந்தது. அதற்கும் இப்போழுது இன்ஜெக்ஷன் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகக் கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். இவ்விதமாக நாளுக்கு நாள் வைத்திய இலாகா முன்னேறிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. மனிதன் சாகாமல் இருக்கக்கூடியதற்குக்கூட இன்ஜெக்ஷனே மருந்தோ கண்டுபிடித்துவிடுவார்கள் போலிருக்கிறது. இந்த நாடு வெகுவேகமாக வைத்தியத்தில் முன்னேறிக்கொண்டு மக்களுக்கு எல்லாவகையிலும் வேண்டிய சௌகரியங்களைச் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றது.

“சென்ற சில வருஷங்களாக மழை இல்லாமல் மக்கள் பஞ்சத்தினால் வாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கும் நிலைமையிலும், ஜனங்கள் ரொம்ப நாணயமாகத்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். 'பசி வந்திடப் பததும் டறந்துபோம்' என்ற பழமொழிப்போல், ஜனங்கள் பஞ்சத்தால் கஷ்டப்பட்டபாதினும் உணவுப் பங்கீட்டு முறையிருந்தும் நாட்டில் அமைதி நிலைத்திருக்கிறது. இதைவிட உயர்ந்த ஏற்பாட்டை இனி வதிப்பார்க்கமுடியாது.

“கடைசியாக ஒரு வார்த்தையைச் சொல்லவிரும்புகிறேன். மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் வருவதற்கு முன்னால் மதுவிலை எவ்வளவு வருமானம் வந்து கொண்டிருந்ததோ, அதைவிட விற்பனை வரிமூலமாக அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அதிகமாக பணம் இப்பொழுது வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. சுமார் 16 அல்லது 18 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வருகிறது. இவ்வளவு வருமானம் வந்த பிறகும், கள்ளுக்கடைகளைத் திறக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால், அது நியாயமா? என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்.

“வியாபார வரியை வசூலிக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் இருக்கிறார்களே அவர்களைக் கொஞ்சம் சர்க்கார் கட்டு திட்டம் செய்துவைக்கவேண்டும். வியாபாரிகள் கணக்குப் புத்தகங்களைப் பார்ப்பதற்காகத் தான் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். வியாபாரிகள் கணக்குகளைக் கொண்டுவருகிறபோது, அதிகாரிகள் அவர்களைக் கொஞ்சம் மரியாதையாக நடத்தவேண்டும். வியாபாரிகளிடமிருந்து வரியை வசூலிக்கும் அரசாங்கம், அவர்களை அவமானகரமாக நடத்தக்கூடாது. அதிகாரிகள் அவர்களை உதாசீனமாகப் பேசுகிறார்கள் என்று வியாபாரிகள் புகார் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி அதிகாரிகள் நடந்துகொள்ளாமல் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு உத்தரவை அரசாங்கம் பிறப்பிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டமானது ரொம்பவும் நன்றாகத் தயாரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது, அதை எல்லோரும் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். வெள்ளைக் காரண்டம் அடிமைப்பட்டிருக்கொண்டிருந்த இந்த தேசம், சுதந்திரம் அடைந்து விட்டது. ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நன்மைகள் இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ செய்யப்படவேண்டும். ஆகையால், கமை ஸ்ரீமான் ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்களிடம் இந்த மாகாண நிர்வாகத்தை இன்னும் ஐந்து வருஷத்திற்கு விட்டு வைத்தால் எவ்வளவோ நன்மைகள் ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏற்படும். அவர் அவ்விதம் கன்வரர் என்று நான் நம்புகிறேன். நீங்களும் அவ்விதம்

4th July 1952]

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

நம்பினால் இந்தத் திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து அவர்களுக்கு எல்லா விதத்திலும் ஒத்தாசையாக இருக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி நாம் செய்தால்தான் இந்த நாட்டு நிர்வாகம் சீர்படும். நான் அவரை—டிக்கேடராக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சிபார்ச்சு செய்தேன் என்று நீங்கள் நினைக்கவேண்டாம். அவர் மீது நம்பிக்கை இருந்தால் அவ்விதம் செய்யுங்கள் என்று தான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். இந்த நாடு பஞ்சத்தால் பாதிக்கப்படாமல் இருப்பதற்கு, மக்கள் பசியால் வாடாமல் இருப்பதற்கு, இந்த தேசம் சீரும் சிறப்புமாக இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் கணம் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுக்கு அனைவரும் ஆதரவு தாவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு, இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து என் வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.”

* DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—“ Mr. Chairman, 6-15
Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak p.m.
on this Budget. All of us realize that it is a deficit Budget, for which we cannot blame the present Government. We have to blame the elements of nature, the failure of the seasonal rains and our misfortunes. We are here to give some constructive suggestions.

“ We are grateful to this Government for the provisions in the Budget for some beneficent causes in spite of it being a deficit Budget, which is an indication of the good intention of this Government to improve the conditions, economic, social and others, of the people of this State. Now, about the food policy of the Government, women welcome the removal of food control. Two years ago, the Women's Association of this State brought to the notice of the then Government the enormous bribery and corruption such as blackmarketing and oppression of the weak prevalent in the State consequent on that. Several new laws were passed to enforce food control. Thereby people were very much harassed. Mostly poor people were caught and rich people escaped. We urged on the Government to remove control on food, but our voice was a cry in the wilderness. Now, we are all happy that it was left to the able statesmanship of Sri Rajagopalachari to courageously come forward and remove the control on food.

“ Then, about Prohibition I have to say a word. We, women, picketed toddy and arrack shops in the days of the British rule when we agitated for the removal of the drink evil. In our struggle we had on several occasions to become the victims of lathi charges, and we even courted imprisonment in that struggle. Now we are all glad that Prohibition has been introduced. The previous speaker has described in full the benefit of Prohibition in sweet colloquial Tamil. I have to point out here how much the womenfolk, the poor women, the working class women, have all been profited by this Prohibition policy of the Government. I know how they feel happy over it as I am living almost in their midst, I am living in Adyar, for the last several years. In the days when toddy and arrack shops were in full swing, our girls and inmates of our Home, could not pass by the Lattice Bridge road immediately after dark, for men used to pass by that road fully drunk, shouting in all sorts of obscene language. Now, what a contrast I see! Even at twelve o'clock at night, it is all quite safe there for people to go along that road. While previously, decent people, respectable people and women shuddered to come out at night on that road; now, due to the great change that has come about there, people without any

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fear pass along that road. I know illicit distillation, in the small villages round about that place, is going on. I admit the evil is there. It is an evil. But we cannot compromise with the evil of drink. Can we say that the Indian Penal Code should be repealed simply because thefts are going on all round us, or because there are several cases of murder taking place around us? We should enforce the Prohibition Act rigorously, because drink is an evil, from the social, health and economic points of view. It affects the health, not only the health of the addict but his children also. As a young student in the days when I had been studying in the Medical College, I used to see young children coming for treatment for blindness, deafness, mental deficiency and some kind of deformity or other. On enquiry into the history of those cases, I shuddered to find that they were all children of addicts. I know all sorts of criticism are hurled against the Ministry to make them repeal the Prohibition Act. I would plead with all the emphasis at my command not to repeal it. Remember the days when we picketed toddy and arrack shops and received lathi charges and insults from the Police and courted imprisonment to do away with drink evil. Why blame Government, why criticise Government if there is breach of law here and there? Enforce the law more rigorously.

“Now, Sir, I proceed to another subject. I am glad to see that educational fee concessions have been given to the children of the non-gazetted officers and also to the children of servants of local bodies and aided school teachers. I plead on this occasion that the same concessions may be extended to the orphans and destitutes in this State. There are thousands of children in that condition to-day. We want many more orphanages. Every district should have such an orphanage. We are running the Avvai Home in Adyar for orphans and destitute women. We have destitute poor children being cared for there. Almost every day, when I come out of my house in the morning, what do I see before me? The pathetic sight of orphans or deserted children, ill-fed, in ragged clothes hanging on to their mothers seeking admission. Very often, I felt, I should run away from there, because we were helpless and could not admit all of them for want of accommodation and finance. I prayed to God to help us. For I have also faith in God. Now, missionaries from distant lands have worked on these lines already, and have established educational institutions and hospitals, for the benefit of the poor of this land on account of their faith in Jesus. Our land has produced a Sankara, a Buddha and a Ramanuja, who are all great religious masters. Our land has produced Thiruvalluvar, the author of Kural, who has said in the first stanza—

‘அகர முதலெழுத்தெல்லாம் ஆதி பகவன் முதற்றே உலகு.’

The great woman Poetess Avvai has said:

‘கோடில் இல்லா ஊரில் குடியிருக்க வேண்டாம்.’

“These great people, whose works have come down to us not through any material medium but through thoughts which are written in letters of gold, these great men, lived thousands of years

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ago and are still remembered by us. Why? Because they have propounded truths; and truth is eternal. But that is by the way. What I was saying was, that destitute children should have the same fee concessions as the children of the non-gazetted officers. I know I should plead with the Hon. Finance Minister for this concession. I hope funds are available. Here I am not criticising him, but I am putting this suggestion to this Council of elders.

“Then, coming to education, there is primary education, secondary education and collegiate education. Of course, primary education has now become basic education. It is a good move in the right direction. Some of the villages and taluks have introduced compulsion in their schools to boys only but not to girls. Under the new Constitution we are guaranteed equal rights and opportunities. That being so, why should a difference be made by local boards and municipalities between boys and girls in imparting elementary education? The proportion is two boys to one girl. I am placing this fact before this House only to say that both boys and girls should be treated alike. There should be no discrimination between a boy and a girl in the elementary education stage.

“Again, Sir, when compulsion is introduced in the elementary education stage, you must see that the child is fed. Most of the pupils have no food to eat. What will a hungry child learn at school? Can you make him learn anything? No. So local bodies should make efforts to provide food to the hungry poor children.

“Then, with regard to secondary education, we find here, that the proportion of girls to boys is only 1 : 7. This is not proper. Because we want lakhs of midwives, nurses and women teachers. More than that we want good mothers. Now, Sir, we see our national character is very low. We want to make our people cultured in the real sense of the word. This training should begin in the home. For that, unless you have an educated mother, you cannot expect to have good citizens in future. Therefore I would ask you to give priority to girls' education.

“Here I may say a word about the bifurcated course. Only 92 schools have adopted it. I submit these courses should be introduced in every girls' school. This course comprises lessons in domestic science, home-craft, mother-craft, hygiene, music, in fact all arts which really go to make a real home. It is said that our ancients knew 64 *kalais*; but that is all forgotten now. I am interested to see that bifurcated courses are introduced also for our boys. Medical, science, engineering, etc. courses should be introduced as quickly as possible. The previous speaker said that there is great need to give training in agriculture to our boys. It is a very good suggestion, and I suggest that this training should be given in the high schools. I would urge on the Government to give more encouragement in starting professional colleges. What is the use of starting more and more Arts Colleges? What are these students going to do after finishing their Arts course, unless they intend to specialize in higher learning? So all the money spent on them is really a loss to the State. Either those students.

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should go to the engineering course or take to medicine, or they should be satisfied with the School Final Course and from there turn to some profession.

"Now, I turn to another point. I would place before you, Sir, the question of school medical service. I see in the Health Report of the Medical department that cholera, dysentery and smallpox are on the increase except malaria, which has been kept under control. Even venereal diseases have increased. Why so? Because you have not inculcated in the people the elementary principles of health and hygiene. Frequent medical inspection alone can achieve that end. Now we have four million children attending schools in the elementary stage. We have five lakhs of boys and girls in the secondary education stage, forty thousand in colleges. If all these people are made healthy in the early years, what a fine set of people we will have! Then, Sir, not only children will learn to live healthy lives but also the teachers and parents as well. They will be missionaries of health. We have appointed so many doctors and yet they are found to be too few in number to meet the needs of the people. So this important branch of preventive medicine, namely, School Medical Service should be introduced in all schools, to elementary school children, to secondary school children and college students. Again, Sir, teachers should be medically examined frequently, and they should be given education in health and hygiene. Because they are the people who are in contact every day, with their pupils; and so, very much depends upon the teacher. I am in perfect sympathy with those who want more emoluments and better salary and better conditions for teachers. I sympathize with them. But, at the same time, we have to see that they are given good training. The future of our children depends upon the kind of teachers they have. Everybody is not a born teacher. So we should appoint a committee for the selection of good teachers.

"Now, coming to the Budget for health services. I find Government have provided for Agriculture, Industries, etc., a good sum but not for Public Health."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member may take a few minutes more and finish her speech."

6-30
p.m.

* DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like to quote from the report of the Director of Public Health but there is no time. Cancer is a dreadful disease. It takes a toll of lakhs of lives every year. It is one of the most fatal and one of the most deadly of diseases. Scientists and Specialists have now discovered that this disease which was considered incurable can be cured if diagnosed early and adequately treated. It is now acknowledged that it is more curable than many other diseases. People should therefore be educated to seek early treatment. In advanced cases cancer is one of most painful diseases. It kills more people nowadays and it is next to tuberculosis in mortality and morbidity. In the department of the Director Public Health there

4th July 1952] [Dr. S. Muthulakshmi Reddi]

must be an Anti-cancer department and provision must be made for Anti-cancer Campaign with posters, with films, with models and literature in all the languages to educate the people as to the nature of the disease and advise them to seek early treatment. Six persons die of cancer every hour and 140 to 150 people die every day of cancer. It is the great Tamil Poetess Avvayar who said:

‘கொடிது கொடிது வறுமை கொடிது, அதனினும் கொடிது
ஆற்றெனக் கொடுநாய்’

She is a great woman who has pronounced disease to be worse than hunger and famine. Probably there was cancer even in those days! We must see that provision is made to bring this truth home to every citizen. As many time is up, I do not want to continue and I thank you, Sir. I support this Budget wholeheartedly and I wish this Government to continue so that they may bring in beneficial measures for improving the health of the people and also for promoting education and many other things like agriculture, etc.”

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“The House will now adjourn and meet again at 4 o'clock on Saturday, the 5th July 1952.”

The House then adjourned.

IV—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE,

G.O. Ms. No. 1839, P.W. (Electricity), dated 28th April 1952, regarding the acquisition of Periyakulam Municipal Electrical Undertaking.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

